GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:466
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007
FACILITIES TO PRISONERS IN JAIL
Jha Shri Raghunath;Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total strength of prisoners in Tihar Jail, Delhi;

(b) whether inhuman treatment is being meted out to the prisoners;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the basic facilities being provided to the prisoners including education, training for rehabilitation and Medical facilities;

(e) whether the reforms and innovation introduced by the then Chief of Jail still continue to be observed in the Tihar Jail;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI)

(a): As on 9.8.2007 the total strength of prisoners in Tihar Jail was 11,467.

(b): No, Sir.

(c): Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d): The facilities being provided to the prisoners in Delhi Jails include:-
(i) Food, clothing and bedding.
(ii) Medical facilities.
(iii) Free legal aid.
(iv) Education and library facility.
(v) Mediation and spiritual activities.
(vi) Vocational training.
(vii) Sports and cultural activities.
(viii) Interview/Mulakat with relatives and friends.
(ix) Grievances redressal system.

(e) to (f): Yes, Sir. The reforms and innovation being observed in Tihar Jail include:-

(i) The meditational, educational, vocational, cultural and sports activities form the daily routine of the prisoners.
(ii) The interview process between the prisoner and visitor has further been improved with the introduction of tele-booking and Central Public Relation Offices.
(iii) A model interview room has been constructed in Central Jail No.3 to facilitate better communication between the prisoner and his visitor.
(iv) A drug de-addiction center with 120 beds provision has been inaugurated in Central Jail No.3.
(v) A Legal Aid Counseling Centre has recently been inaugurated in Prison Complex to strengthen the legal aid activities in jails.
(vi) To decongest the prison and for the expeditious disposal of undertrial cases, Plea Bargaining Courts were organized.
(vii) Process of introducing new gas pipe lines in Jail Kitchens instead of gas cylinders has been initiated.
(viii) A new jail complex consisting of 6 jails is coming up at Mandoli for lodging around 3500 prisoners.
(ix) A court complex has been established in Tihar premises to dispose of the cases of minor offences.

(g): Does not arise in view of (e) above.